



Atty. Docket No. 8029-1041

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masaru TSUKIJI

Serial No. 09/761,693

Filed January 18, 2001

STRUCTURE AND MANUFACTURING  
METHOD OF NON-VOLATILE FLASH  
MEMORY

Confirmation No. 4695

GROUP 2826

Examiner Fetsum Abraham

#9  
Response  
J. M. M. M. M.  
3/28/03

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This responds to the Official Action of March 6, 2003.

The indication that claims 1-3, 8 and 10-12 have been allowed is acknowledged with thanks.

The Official Action objects to the form of claims 4-7 and 9. It is believed that these claims are correct. Claim 4, which depends from claim 1, refers at line 3 to "said source". Claim 1, line 5, includes "a source" and thus there is antecedent basis for "said source" that appears in claim 4. "Said source" is composed of "first sources" and "a second source", which are newly identified in claim 4 and thus are appropriately formatted. Claim 5 is similar. Claims 6, 7 and 9 refer to either "first sources" which appear in claims 4 and 5 or "said first and second sources" as a proper reference to the first and second sources identified in claim 5.

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Claim 3 was amended in the January 2, 2003 response and no longer includes the recitation "at the adjacent position." Note that line 5 uses "memory cell adjacent to." This is believed to be correct.

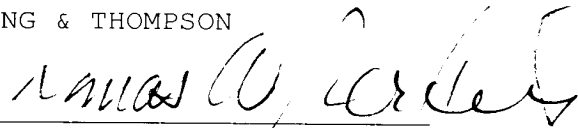
Accordingly, it is believed that the claims are in proper form and reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection thereto are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

  
Thomas W. Perkins  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 33,027  
745 South 23rd Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone: 521-2297

March 25, 2003